

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/708,258 Confirmation No. 2257
Applicant : Toru Tamagawa, et al.
Filed : February 20, 2004
T.C./A.U. : 3746
Examiner : Jessica L. Frantz
Docket No. : 018.0016
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY to Requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.146 for Election of Species

Sir:

In response to the Office action of February 28, 2007, Applicants hereby provisionally elects Species 3, identified in the action as being depicted in Fig. 6. Claims 1 to 11, 23 to 45, 52 to 61, 64 to 72, and 79 to 87 as presented in the accompanying amendment are believed to read on the elected species.

Request under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 for Reconsideration

Applicants point out, contrary to the distinctions made in the Office action, that the embodiment of Fig. 6 is the same as the embodiment of Fig. 4 except that a sliding bearing or a fluid dynamic bearing is used as the bearing (see paragraph [0066] of the specification as filed), and that the embodiment of Fig. 4 is similar to the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3 (see paragraph [0048]).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that a claim reading on any one of Species 1, 2 or 3 must therefore read on the other species as well, and that all the pending independent claims are thus generic.

App. No. 10/708,258
Election dated April 30, 2007
Reply to Office action of February 28, 2007

Favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

April 30, 2007

/James Judge/

James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

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